AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A heat sterilized blood processing system comprising

a first container,

flexible transfer tubing ~~extending from and establishing fluid flow communication~~ coupled in-line with the first container, the flexible transfer tubing including a peripheral wall made from flexible plastic material that, when subject to heat sterilization, is subject to collapsing and sticking together,

a second container defining an air reservoir coupled in-line with the flexible transfer tubing, the second container including peripheral walls made from a flexible plastic material that, when subject to heat sterilization, are subject to collapsing and sticking together, and

the flexible transfer tubing including an air tube extending a certain distance into the air reservoir and creating a space between the peripheral walls of the second container and the air tube, the air tube and the space being sized and configured to ~~provide~~ contain an incremental ~~air~~ volume of air for the ~~flexible transfer tubing~~ system so that ~~collapse~~ the collapsing and sticking together of the peripheral wall of the flexible transfer tubing and the peripheral walls of the second container ~~is~~ are prevented during heat sterilization.

2 (Currently Amended). A heat sterilized blood processing system according to claim 1

and further including an in-line filter carried by the flexible transfer tubing between the ~~air reservoir~~ second container and the first container.

3 (New).). A heat sterilized blood processing system according to claim 1

further including a liquid carried by the first container during hear sterilization, and

further including a frangible cannula normally blocking fluid flow through the flexible transfer tubing between the first and second container so that the second container and the flexible transfer tubing are, during heat sterilization, free of liquid.

4 (New). A heat sterilized blood processing system according to claim 3

further including a phlebotomy needle coupled to the first container, and

wherein the liquid includes an anticoagulant.